efficient methods, to contain population growth in the country within manageable limits; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the review made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) For achieving the targetted goal of reaching NRR of Unity by 2000 A.D. as laid down in the National Health Policy and based on the progress made during 6th Plan, the 7th Plan lays stress on the following aspects activities of the Family Welfare Programme:

(1) Improvement in the efficiency and effectiveness in the programme infrastructure.

(2) Greater emphasis on spacing methods particularly with reference to younger age group couples;

(3) Special campaign to remove bias against female children;

(4) Propagation and enforcement of law relating to marriage;

(5) Special attention to States with low couple protection rates and special focus on urban slums, backward and tribal areas and rural poor;

(6) Special programme for cities with population more than one million;

(7) Greater involvement of voluntary organisations in the Family Welfare Programme.

(8) Formation of Village Health Committees and Mahila Mandals in all villages.

In order to achieve the objectives of the Seventh Plan, we have a multi-pronged strategy which is constantly reviewed. This stratagy emphasis on optimal use of infrastructure reated; involvement of voluntary organisations, improving quality of services; enhancing child survival; strengthening of information; education and communication; promotion of temporary contraceptive methods etc.

The existing methods of Family Planning are sterilisation, IUD insertions, use of C.C. and O.P. Continuous research is going on to develop new contraceptives and improving the efficacy of the existing methods. On the basis of the research findings introduction of Nor-Plant II and Centchroman in the Programme holds good promises. Further research in this direction in going on.

Debate on the perspective Plan for Women

1910. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to undertake a nation wide debate on the perspective plan for women, as suggested recently by representatives of some women's organisations; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) The draft National Perspective Plan for Women 1988-2000 was discussed at the meeting of the National Committee for Women in May 1988 followed by detailed study in working groups of the Committee.

A Conference of Chairpersons of the State Social Welfare Advisory Boards was held in June 1988 to discuss the draft Plan. A large number of national and gress root level voluntary organisations were also involved in the discussions.

A Conference of Ministers and Secretaries incharge of Women's Development of States and Union Territories held in July 1988 to discuss the draft Plan, has unanimously endorsed it.

A meeting of Women MPs is being convened to discuss the draft Perspective Plan, and a meeting of the Consultative Committee attached to the HRD Ministry will also be held to discuss the draft Plan.

The draft Plan has been freely distributed to interested persons/organisations to elicit comments and recommendations.

The draft National Perspective Plan is being finalized taking into account the views of the State Governments, State Social Welfare Advisory Boards, voluntary organisations and representatives of women's interests, etc.

Ban on sale and use of non-iodised salt in Delhi

1911. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:
SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed the Delhi Administration to ban sale and use of non-iodised salt;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have given adequate assistance in maintaining sufficient supply of iodised salt to Delhi Adiminstration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Yes. Surveys conducted by the Directorate General of Health Services, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences have revealed the prevalence of Goitre and other Iodine Deficiency Disorders among different segments of population in Delhi.

In order to control the problem of Goitre and other associated Iodine Deficiency Disorders, the Government of India have advised the Delhi Administration to ban sale of salt other than iodised salt under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

(c) Adequate quantity of iodised salt is being provided to the Union Territory of Delhi under the National Goitre Control Programme. During 1987-88 a quantity of 1.22 lakh MT of iodised salt was supplied against an estimated annual requirement of 42,800 tonnes, to Delhi.

Blindness caused by diabetes

1912. SHRI DAYANAND SAHAY:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:
SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 155 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th July, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that diabetes is also one of the causes which leads to blindness;

(b) what are the other causes which lead to blindness;

(c) whether control of diabetes is covered under the National Health Programme;

(d) if so, whether it is a fact that this disease was covered under National Health Programme when the list of drugs needed for the disease under the Programme was finalised and sent for price control;

(e) if so, names of drugs recommended for price control under this disease;

(f) when was this disease removed from National Health Programme, alongwith the reasons; and

(g) what is the total number of cases of diabetes in the country and